

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

While I strongly support and have sponsored efforts to address the needs of our state's growing population of children with autism, this measure duplicates activities funded in the recent Budget Act and already underway in the Department of Developmental Services, and is therefore unnecessary. Specifically, my budget included \$2.7 million to expand the Autistic Spectrum Disorder Initiative to support development and implementation of best practice guidelines for treatment and intervention of autism, establish local resource centers to better support families, and to strengthen regional center capacity to coordinate application of guidelines and improve training and coordination of services at the local level.

For these reasons, I am returning Assembly Bill 1478 without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger